

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~ fuel cell comprising:
a plurality of unit cells each having a solid electrolyte membrane, a fuel electrode disposed on one surface of said solid electrolyte membrane, and an oxidizer electrode disposed on the other surface of said solid electrolyte membrane in opposition to said fuel electrode associated therewith, wherein said plurality of unit cells share said solid electrolyte membrane, and are electrically connected to each other by at least one electrically conductive member,
wherein a low ion conductive region of said solid electrolyte membrane is located between said unit cells, and the electrically conductive member is formed in a region other than the low ion conductive region.

2. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~ fuel cell according to claim 1, ~~further comprising wherein said at least one an~~ electrically conductive member ~~extending~~ extends through said solid electrolyte membrane, wherein at least two of said plurality of unit cells are connected in series through said at least one electrically conductive material member.

3. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 1, further comprising a sealing material interposed between said at least one electrically conductive member and said solid electrolyte membrane.

4. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 2, wherein said at least one electrically conductive member has a surface coated with an insulating material.

5. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 3, wherein said at least one electrically conductive members has a surface coated with an insulating material.

6. (cancel).

7. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim ~~6~~1, wherein said low ion conductive region is a region having a groove formed on said solid electrolyte membrane.

8. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 7, wherein said groove is filled with an insulating resin.

9. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim ~~6~~1, wherein said low ion conductive region is a region having ~~a~~ at least one recess formed on said solid electrolyte membrane.

10. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 9, wherein said at least one recess is filled with an insulating resin.

11. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 8, wherein said insulating resin is selected from the group consisting ~~any~~ of a fluorine-based resin, a polyimide-based resin, a phenol-based resin, and an epoxy-based resin.

12. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 10, wherein said insulating resin is selected from the group consisting ~~any~~ of a fluorine-based resin, a polyimide-based resin, a phenol-based resin, and an epoxy-based resin.

13. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 1, further comprising a fuel flow path which covers said plurality of fuel electrodes, wherein said fuel flow path has a partition, part of which is comprised of said solid electrolyte membrane.

14. (currently amended): The ~~liquid-fuel-supply type~~-fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein at least two of said plurality of unit cells are connected in parallel.

15. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said fuel electrode and said oxidizing electrode each comprise a base, gas diffusion layer and a catalyst layer.

16. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein said solid electrolyte membrane has a high conductivity for hydrogen ions.

17. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein a material for forming said solid electrolyte membrane is selected from the group consisting of a strong acid group and an organic polymer having a weak acid group.

18. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 17, wherein said strong acid group is selected from the group consisting of a sulfone group, a phosphate group, a phosphone group, and a phosphine group.

19. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 17, wherein said organic polymer having a weak acid group is selected from the group consisting of a aromatic series containing polymers, sulfonic copolymers, fluorine containing polymers, acrylic amid class copolymers, perfluorocarbene containing a sulfone group, and perfluorocarbene containing a carboxyl group.

20. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 15, wherein said base, gas diffusion layer is a porous base selected from the group consisting of carbon paper, carbon molding, carbon sinter, sintered metal, and foam metal.

21. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 15, wherein said catalyst layer comprises carbon particulates holding a catalyst and solid polyelectrolyte particulates.

22. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 21, wherein said catalyst is selected from the group consisting of platinum, rhodium, palladium, iridium, osmium, ruthenium, rhenium, gold, silver, nickel, cobalt, lithium, lanthanum, strontium, and yttrium, alone or in a combination of two or more.

23. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 21, wherein said carbon particulates are selected from the group consisting of acetylene black, Ketjen Black, carbon nanotubes, and carbon nanohorns, wherein said carbon particulates have a diameter of 0.01 to 0.1 μm .

24. (new): The fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein an organic fuel is applied in said fuel electrode, and said organic fuel is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, diethyl ether and a hydrogen containing gas.